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Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

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LONDON FOR COUNSELOR SONNENFELDT

BRUSSELS FOR HARTMAN

FOL BUCHAREST 5018 SENT ACTION SECSTATE OCTOBER 31, 1974
REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 5018

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT RO
SUBJ: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

REF: SECRETARY'S ROMANIAN BRIEFING BOOK

EMBASSY WOULD ONLY ADD FOLLOWING SUPPLEMENTARY FOOTNOTES
TO DEPARTMENT'S EXCELLENT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES ON
ROMANIAN LEADERS WHOM SECRETARY IS LIKELY TO ENCOUNTER
IN BUCHAREST (PREPARED FOR SECRETARY'S BRIEFING BOOK):

1. BODNARAS. IN PRIVATE BODNARAS IS THE MOST OUT-
SPOKENLY ANTI-SOVIET SENIOR MEMBER OF CEAUSESCU'S
ENTOURAGE. WE BELIEVE HIS DISTRUST AND CONTEMPT FOR
BREZHNEV AND CO. ARE GENUINE, NOT FEIGNED; IN TALKS WITH
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SUCH US VIP'S AS SEN. HUGH SCOTT, BODNARAS HAS SOUNDED

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AS MUCH LIKE A "CAPTIVE-NATIONS" NATIONALIST AS HARD-NOSE MARXIST. KHRUSHCHEV REPUTEDLY ATTEMPTED TO SUBVERT HIM IN 1963-4 WITHOUT SUCCESS. HE IS OF MIXED GERMAN-UKRAINIAN ORIGINS. FROM HIS DEFECTION FROM THE ROMANIAN ARMY INTO THE USSR IN THE EARLY 1930'S THROUGH HIS KEY CONSPIRATORIAL ROLE IN THE 1944 BUCHAREST COUP, HIS RUMORED ROMANCE WITH PRINCESS ILEANA, KING CAROL'S SISTER, TO HIS LATTER-DAY ROLE AS TRUSTED GOR CONTACT-MAN WITH TITO AND MAO, BODNARAS HAS HAD ONE OF THE RCP'S MOST COLORFUL CAREERS. HIS LOYALTY THROUGHOUT HAS BEEN TO THE RCP, NOT ANY ONE MAN.

2. ANDREI. TYPICAL OF THE NEW BREED OF CEAUSESCU'S LIEUTENANTS, ANDREI, 43, IS DIRECT AND INTELLECTUALLY AGGRESSIVE, EVEN BRUSQUE. HE HAS IMPRESSED SOME WESTERN CONTACTS WITH HIS PRESENCE AND FORCEFULNESS. ONE FAVORED TOPIC OF CONVERSATION IS POLITICAL SCIENCE. HIS ELECTION TO THE PARTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS WIDELY EXPECTED AT THE RCP PARTY CONGRESS THIS NOVEMBER. HE WAS THE RCP'S CHIEF DELEGATE AT THE MEETING OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES IN WARSAW IN OCTOBER, AS WELL AS AT MANY PREVIOUS INTER-PARTY FUNCTIONS.

3. MALITA. MALITA IS AN ANOMALY IN THE CURRENT RCP INNER CIRCLE; HE REPRESENTS THOSE IN ROMANIA HOPING TO INTRODUCE A MORE RATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, LESS IDEOLOGICAL APPROACH TO POLICY FORMULATION. HE IS ROMANIA'S LEADING FUTUROLOGIST-SYSTEMS ANALYSIS PROPONENT, A MATHEMATICIAN AND GAME-THEORY EXPERT, WHO HAS SPONSORED A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL SEMINARS ON SYSTEMS APPLICATIONS TO INTER-NATIONAL RELATIONS AND SOCIOLOGY. HE TOOK IBM COURSES DURING HIS TENURE AS GOR UN MISSION COUNSELOR. HIS SURVIVAL AS ONE OF CEAUSESCU'S COUNSELORS STEMS IN PART FROM HIS PROVEN TALENTS AS A NEGOTIATOR -- CEAUSESCU SENT HIM TO THE MIDDLE EAST AFTER THE YOM KIPPUR WAR, TO CYPRUS, GREECE AND TURKEY AND MOST RECENTLY TO JORDAN AS SEPCIAL EMISSARY. HIS BRILLIANCE AND LIBERALISM REPORTEDLY HAVE CREATED ENEMIES IN THE PARTY APPARATUS.

4. MACOVESCU. OVER THE PAST YEAR RUMORS HAVE NEVER
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DIED AWAY CONCERNING FRICTION BETWEEN ANDREI, 43, AND MACOVESCU, 61, AND THE POSSIBLITY THAT MACOVESCU WOULD BE REPLACED. IN ANY EVENT, HE IS REGARDED AS HAVING BEEN MORE SUCCESSFUL AS DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER UNDER CORNELIU MANESCU THAT AS TOP MAN AT MFA. MACOVESCU HAS HAD HIS ROLE REDUCED OF LATE WITH THE INCREASING PROMINENCE OF PARTY SECRETARY STEFAN ANDREI; HE CONTINUES TO TRAVEL WIDELY; HOWEVER, AND IS THE MOST RECENT

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ROMANIAN OFFICIAL TO HAVE VISITED CHINA AND NORTH KOREA (AUGUST 1974). MACOVESCU PRIDES HIMSELF ON HIS NEGOTIATING SKILLS AND ON HIS EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN US-ROMANIAN RELATIONS, THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE FAR EAST.HE CANN BE NOT ONLY OUTSPOKEN, BUT OCCASIONALLY BLUNT.

5. MANESCU. IN HIS INNUMERABLE CONTACTS WITH US OFFICIALS AND BUSINESSMEN, MANESCU HAS OFTEN SEEMED AN AMIABLE, WELL INFORMED, NOT UNINTELLIGENT WINDBAG-TECHNOCRAT WHO PROFESSORIALLY TELLS ONE MORE THAN ONE WANTS TO KNOW ABOUT ROMANIA'S ECONOMY. HE DEFERS TO CEAUSESCU, WITH WHOM HE SEEMINGLY MADE COMMON CAUSE IN SQUEEZING THE ROMANIAN ECONOMY HARDER FOR "RESERVES" AND ACCELERATING PLAN FULFILLMENT, A STRATEGY WHICH THERE IS REASON TO THINK WAS NOT UNANIMOUSLY WELCOMED WITHIN THE LEADERSHIP. AS PRIME MINISTER, HE IS A MUCH LESS PRESTIGIOUS, INDEPENDENT FIGURE THAN THE RETIRED ION GHEORGHE MAURER, BUT SHOWS EVERY SIGN OF LIKING HIS NEW ROLE.

6. PUNGAN. PUNGAN IS PROUD OF HIS ROLE IN PROMOTING US-ROMANIAN TIES. HE IS DIRECT, BUT DISCREET AND HAS BEEN USED INCREASINGLY AS A CEAUSESCU SPECIAL EMISSARY, MOST RECENTLY TO THE US, EGYPT AND LATIN AMERICA.

7. VASILE GLIGA. GLIGA, 50, HAS BEEN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER SINCE 1966, BEFORE WHICH HE WAS THE MFA'S TOP POLICY PLANNER. HE ACTS AS FOREIGN MINISTER WHEN MACOVESCU IS GONE. GLIGA'S PORTFOLIO CURRENTLY INCLUDES US AND OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, LEGAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS, AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. GLIGA IS SUAVE AND CULTIVATED, INTERESTED IN FINE ART, AND A TENNIS ENTHUSIAST. HE HAS MET WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF AMERICAN VISITORS TO BUCHAREST. HIS DIPLOMATIC STYLE

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IS EASY AND DIRECT BUT AT THE SAME TIME PROFESSIONAL AND NEVER OVERLY CONFIDING OR INDISCREET. HE SPEAKS FRENCH AND HUNGARIAN.

8. CONSTANTIN OANCEA. THE NEW HEAD OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DIRECTORATE III (RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRIES), UNDER GLIGA, HAS BEEN ON THE JOB FOR ONLY THREE WEEKS. SQUAT AND PUDGY AND WITH A THICK DARK FACE AND HAIR, OANCEA, 46, LOOKS AS IF HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN TYPE-CAST FOR THE HOLLYWOOD PART OF A BALKAN DIPLOMAT. HE IS SAID TO SPEAK GERMAN, FRENCH AND ITALIAN FAIRLY WELL. HE RETURNS TO BUCHAREST AFTER HAVING SERVED AS HIS COUNTRY'S FIRST AMBASSADOR TO THE FRG FOR THE PST SEVEN YEARS. IN HIS INITIAL DEALINGS WITH THIS EMBASSY, OANCEA HAS BEEN PLEASANT AND HELPFUL AND PREOCCUPIED

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WITH US RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH HIS RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE ALL DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO GERMAN SOURCES, OANCEA WAS NOT AN EFFECTIVE REPRESENTATIVE IN BONN. LACKING ANY PARTICULAR DIPLOMATIC EXPERTISE OR INTELLECTUAL COMPETENCE, HE HAD AN ANNOYING HABIT OF INSISTING UPON SEEING THE FOREIGN MINISTER OR ONE OF THE DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTERS AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK, EVEN WHEN HE HAD LITTLE TO DISCUSS. PRIOR TO HIS FRG ASSIGNMENT, OANCEA WAS DIRECTOR OF MFA'S CULTURAL DIRECTORATE, AND PARTICIPATED IN 1962 ROMANIAN-US CULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS. HE HAS ALSO SERVED IN ROME. BARNES UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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